

In re Patent Application of:

**PERMAR, JOHN W., JR.**

Serial No. **10/764,350**

Filed: **January 23, 2004**

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**REMARKS**

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application. The Examiner is also thanked for conducting a teleconference with the Applicant's Attorney on October 23, 2006.

In an Office Action dated June 27, 2006, the Examiner indicated that Claims 1-11, 16, 17, 24, and 25 were allowable, and that Claims 12-15, 18-23, 26, and 27 were directed to allowable subject matter. In response to that Office Action, the Applicants amended independent Claim 12 to include the recitations of dependent Claims 13-15 and 17, and independent Claim 20 to include the recitations of dependent Claims 21-22.

Thereafter, the Examiner issued a final Office Action on September 25, 2006, rejecting amended independent Claims 12 and 20. More specifically, the Examiner contended that although Claims 17 and 25 were previously thought to be allowable, they were not in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,811,486 to Cunningham.

On October 23, 2006, the Applicant's Attorney conducted a telephonic interview with the Examiner. During the telephonic interview, it was agreed that independent Claim 12 would be allowable if it were amended to include the limitations of dependent Claim 16, and all of its intervening claims, and that independent Claim 20 would be allowable if it were amended to include the limitations of dependent Claim 25 and all of its intervening claims. It was further agreed that the limitations of previously cancelled Claims 17 and 25 could be removed from the respective independent Claims 12 and 20. This understanding is evidenced by the interview summary dated November 2, 2006.

The Claims have been amended pursuant to the agreement reached between the Examiner and the Applicant's Attorney during the telephonic interview of October 23, 2006.

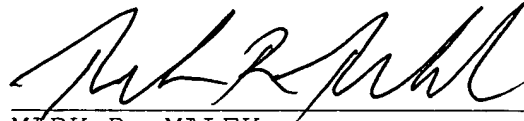
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**CONCLUSION**

In view of the amendments presented above, it is submitted that all the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

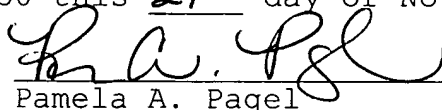


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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Amendment After Final is being deposited via the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2006.



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Pamela A. Pagel